

# From the Upper Chamber



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**Tuesday, February 27, 2007**

The twenty-fifth day of the 2007 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Casey Cagle**.

Senator **Don Balfour** of the 9<sup>th</sup> stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 223-237, Senate Resolutions 340, 341, 344 and 345, House Bills 90, 240, 319, 473, 477, 480, 482, and 483 and House Resolutions 57 and 171 were read for the first time and assigned to committees. The clerk of the Secretary then read the reports of standing committees and second readers.

After the morning roll call, Sen. **Gail Davenport** of the 44<sup>th</sup> took the rostrum to lead the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sen. **Davenport** introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Rev. **Wimbley Hale** of Andrews Chapel United Methodist Church in Jonesboro, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

Sen. **Renee Unterman** of the 45<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to address a news article regarding red light cameras located in construction zones around the city.

Sen. **Vincent Fort** of the 39<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to speak about issues concerning the proposed Georgia Power gas pipeline.

Sergeant-at-Arms **Lorenzo Wallace** escorted Sen. **Michael Meyer von Bremen** of the 12<sup>th</sup> and his guest, **Jim Fowler**, to the rostrum. Prior to this, a video clip was shown of Mr. **Fowler** as a guest on the Johnny Carson show.

The Secretary read SR 346, which commends Mr. **Fowler**, a native Georgian, for being one of the world's best known naturalists. Sen. **Meyer von Bremen** took the rostrum to speak to the resolution.

SR 330-339, 342, 343 and 347 were then read and adopted.

Lt. Gov. **Cagle** recognized several important guests on the floor of the Senate, including former Senator **Billy Ray** and Judges **Andrew Fuller** and **Jason Deal**, son of U.S. Rep. **Nathan Deal**, from Hall County.

Sen. **Ed Tarver** of the 22<sup>nd</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to introduce leaders from Richmond County, seated in the gallery.

Sen. **Meyer von Bremen** took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to recognize students from Lake Park Elementary School in Albany.

The Senate Local Consent Calendar, consisting of SB 158 and 186 and HB 266, 320 and 341, was adopted by a vote of 49 to 0.

The Secretary read SB 103, which looks to correct typographical errors found in the O.C.G.A. Sen. **David Adelman** of the 42<sup>nd</sup> took the well to explain that SB 103 and 104 are part of the annual group of bills brought forth by the Georgia Code Revision Commission. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Steve Thompson** of the 33<sup>rd</sup>.

SB 103 passed by a vote of 51 to 0.

The Secretary then read SB 104, which looks to make corrections to the O.C.G.A., specifically relating to the retirement code. Sen. **Adelman** took the well to speak to the bill. He yielded to questions from Sen. **Bill Heath** of the 31<sup>st</sup>.

SB 104 passed by a vote of 48 to 0.

The Secretary read SB 124, which is a reviser bill that relates to the elections title of the Georgia code. Sen. **Adelman** took the well to explain the bill.

SB 124 passed by a vote of 48 to 0.

The Secretary read SR 231, which commends **Judy Craft** for her services to the state through her involvement with the Republican Party of Georgia. Sen. **Chip Pearson** of the 51<sup>st</sup> took the rostrum to pay tribute to Ms. **Craft** and thank her for her efforts.

The Secretary read SR 347, which recognizes Catholic Day at the Capitol. Sen. **Unterman** took the rostrum to introduce Archbishop **Wilton D. Gregory**, who addressed the Senate.

The Secretary read SB 30, which aims to protect military personnel and their families by prohibiting the use of names or likenesses of U.S. armed forces personnel for commercial purposes. Sen. **Cecil Staton** of the 18<sup>th</sup> took the well to speak to the bill.

The Committee Substitute was adopted by a vote of 39 to 1.

SB 30 passed by substitute by a vote of 49 to 0.

The Secretary read SB 128, which provides for the confidentiality of records being held by the Office of the Child Advocate. Sen. **Joseph Carter** of the 13<sup>th</sup> took the well to explain the bill.

SB 128 passed by a vote of 49 to 0.

The Secretary read SR 133, which creates a Joint Study Committee to look into environmental issues in several Augusta communities. Sen. **Tarver** took the well to speak to the bill.

SR 133 was adopted by a vote of 48 to 0.

The Secretary read SB 131, which closes a loophole relating to the Subsequent Injury Trust Fund. Sen. **Ralph Hudgens** of the 47<sup>th</sup> took the well to explain the bill.

SB 131 passed by a vote of 48 to 0.

The Secretary read SR 129, which recognizes Southern Catholic College Day. Sen. **Pearson** took the rostrum to speak to the resolution and acknowledge members of the Southern Catholic College.

Following the announcements, Sen. **Dan Moody** of the 56<sup>th</sup> moved that the Senate stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 28.

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